

3-11-1991

Henri Temianka Correspondence; (Acosta)

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Description

This collection contains material pertaining to the life, career, and activities of Henri Temianka, violin virtuoso, conductor, music teacher, and author. Materials include correspondence, concert programs and flyers, music scores, photographs, and books.

Keywords

Henri Temianka, Edgardo Acosta, March 11, 1991, Cecil Bonvalot, William Primrose, string quartet, conservatoire, philharmonic, camaraderie, Jules Boucherit, Gabriel Bouillon, Henryk Szeryng, UCLA, London, England, New York, NY

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March 11, 1991

Cher Ami:

Arthur Judson, our manager (Columbia Artist's Management) sent me these newspaper excerpts after the LSQ disbanded.

Warwick was especially pleased to read the Elena de Sayn article after our concert at the Library of Congress (the reference to Mr. Halleux being a fine match for Mr. Pennington, as ~~were~~ ~~we~~ ~~his~~ other partners), as was I, since I succeeded such fine artists as Cecil Bonvalot and Bill Primrose.

I am of course not presumptuous enough to consider myself on a par with Primrose, but at least my offerings were acceptable, and not detrimental to the group.

I don't know if you were aware that Laurent played viola with the Hungarian S.Q. for a while. I was already starting the career in the art business when they visited Paris. I entertained them; took them to Versailles and to some fine restaurants, and heard them at the Salle Gaveau.

Laurent played the viola beautifully. He was a GREAT chamber music artist, and I regretted very much that he did not return to the Conservatoire in Brussels, where he was invited to be the head of the Chamber Music Dept. That would have been a worthy end to his career. Instead, as you know, he played here with the Philharmonic.

Laurent later recommended me to the Hungarian S.Q. to take his place as violist, but after the camaraderie and great personality of the LSQ I just could not accept.

As for these critical excerpts, I have copies, so you may dispose of this one as you wish.

Where did I read that you had studied with Boucherit in Paris, or did I dream it? I ALMOST studied with him, but went with Gabriel Bouillon instead. I'm glad I did, because it was there that I met Szeryng, and we played quartets and became great friends. I was older than he, had a degree from UCLA, and was more mature. I was like an older brother to him.

Of course, those three years in Paris, Spa, and London changed my whole life.

Look forward to having a nice leisurely lunch with you so we can talk over old times. I remember running into you in March or April, 1951, at the Great Northern Hotel in NY: you were with your quartet, and we were going over to Decca.

Cordial regards,

Edgardo Acosta *E. Acosta*